

Downtown Action Plan - Condensed List of Potential Big Ideas

Note: this is a master list of potential action items for the Downtown Action Plan. It contains unimplemented ideas for improvements to Downtown. It removes any duplicate action items as well as any "soft" and general items that aren't directly applicable for a Downtown Action Plan. This chart compiles the ideas from existing plans, along with other notable ideas that have come up since existing plans were adopted, in order to create a master list of ideas. This list can form a starting point for developing the preliminary Top 10 list, but should not be considered a comprehensive, finalized list as new ideas will come up during the planning process. Although many of the ideas listed here are from existing plans, they have not been implemented for reasons such as lack of funds, feasibility, complexity, etc. It is not anticipated that any of these items will be implemented in the short-term. Instead, consultants working on the Downtown Action Plan will work with the public to create the "Top 10" list that contains only the best ideas. Consultants will then determine additional details, in order to move the Top 10 ideas further towards implementation.

Theme: Street Improvements	
Idea	Where Mentioned
Extend Third Avenue as a pedestrian corridor from Strickland to Ogilvie	2007 Downtown Plan; 2016 Downtown Retail Strategy; Engineering meeting
Complete Second Avenue redesign including traffic calming and pedestrian/transit improvements	2015 Sustainability Plan; Planning Services meeting; Sustainability meeting; Engineering meeting
Comprehensive coordination of streetscape improvements in commercial core area	2007 Downtown Plan; 2016 Downtown Retail Strategy; Engineering meeting
Complete Fourth Avenue improvements	2011 Downtown South Master Plan
Infrastructure renewal and street upgrades - phasing/priorities	Planning Services meeting; Engineering meeting
Do a Complete Streets pilot project	2014 Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan
Examine a road and active transportation connection at Robert Service Way and Sixth Avenue	2011 Downtown South Master Plan

Theme: Parking	
Idea	Where Mentioned
Build a parkade	2010 Official Community Plan (OCP); Planning Services meeting

Theme: Active Transportation/Transit	
Idea	Where Mentioned
Complete the lower escarpment paved trail system at north/south ends and connect to waterfront trails	2010 OCP; 2011 Downtown South Master Plan; Planning Services meeting; Engineering meeting; Parks meeting
Build a new pedestrian bridge Downtown near the hospital	2015 Community Economic Development Strategy; 2015 Sustainability Plan Appendix; Planning Services meeting; Economic Development meeting; Sustainability meeting
2nd escarpment staircase in southern area of Downtown	2011 Downtown South Master Plan
Downtown transit hub	2014 TDM plan; 2015 Sustainability Plan Appendix; Planning Services meeting; Transit meeting
East-west active transportation connectors from escarpment to Waterfront	Planning Services meeting; Parks meeting
Improve walkability and connectivity in the Downtown North and North End areas	2016 Downtown Retail Strategy
Look at a commuter corridor	Parks meeting

Theme: Arts/Heritage/Culture	
Idea	Where Mentioned
Encourage an Arts and Heritage Village/District along Waterfront	2010 OCP; 2007 Downtown Plan; 2015 Community Economic Development Strategy; 2015 Sustainability Plan Appendix; Planning Services meeting; Economic Development meeting
Explore the idea of a Wood Street Heritage District	2010 OCP; 2007 Downtown Plan
Encourage commercial use or adaptive reuse of heritage buildings. i.e. White Pass; Trains Crew Houses	2010 OCP; 2016 Downtown Retail Strategy
Increased integration of art Downtown. Encourage functional and interactive art	2010 OCP; 2015 Sustainability Plan Appendix; Sustainability meeting
Extend Waterfront trolley to Schwatka Lake in the south and Marwell in the north	2010 OCP
Encourage another cultural venue - i.e. cinema, 200 seat theatre	Sustainability meeting
Examine feasibility of "districting" in the Downtown area (e.g. Entertainment District, Cultural District, Retail	Economic Development meeting

Theme: Urban Design/Wayfinding/Beautification	
Idea	Where Mentioned
Develop commercial core design guidelines and a design review panel (Main Street)	2007 Downtown Plan; 2016 Downtown Retail Strategy; Planning Services meeting
Develop comprehensive wayfinding system Downtown	2007 Downtown Plan; 2011 Downtown Parking Management Plan; 2014 TDM Plan; 2016 Downtown Retail Strategy
Implement gateway improvements at north and south ends (i.e. Robert Service Gateway Promenade)	2007 Downtown Plan; 2011 Downtown South Master Plan; Parks meeting
Continue placemaking efforts along the Waterfront. Encourage more development along Waterfront.	2010 OCP; 2016 Downtown Retail Strategy; Sustainability meeting
Intepretation in and around the White Pass Building	2010 OCP
Construct a unique, big ticket item that builds on the identity of Downtown. A tourism must-see in a highly visible location. i.e. Yukon Quest start line	Parks meeting
Street tree incentive program	Engineering meeting

Theme: Gathering Spaces/Recreation	
Idea	Where Mentioned
Civic plaza in commercial core	Planning Services meeting; Economic Development meeting
Front Street festival closure	2015 Community Economic Development Strategy; 2016 Downtown Retail Strategy; Economic Development meeting; Planning Services meeting; Sustainability meeting
Slide adjacent to Black Street stairs	2015 Community Economic Development Strategy
Sidewalk cafes; pop-up patios or other way to increase the greater interactivity between commercial businesses and sidewalks	Planning Services meeting; Economic Development meeting; Engineering meeting
Elijah Smith plaza - enliven, program	Planning Services meeting
Consolidated mobile food vendor court	Planning Services meeting
More parkettes	Engineering meeting; Parks meeting
Extend community gardens along the escarpment	Engineering meeting
Consider a Waterfront wharf ie. Dock structure	2010 OCP

Theme: Business/Growth/Networking	
Idea	Where Mentioned
Establish a Downtown Business Improvement Area	2007 Downtown Plan; 2015 Community Economic Development Strategy
Establish a Downtown Whitehorse website	2007 Downtown Plan
Promote a non-profit centralized hub	Planning Services meeting
Examine opportunities for City to assist in implementing the KDFN Whitehorse Waterfront Working Group	Planning Services meeting
Community electronic event sign Downtown	Planning Services meeting

Theme: Zoning/Land Use/Development	
Idea	Where Mentioned
Increase building heights over current 25 m max.	2016 Downtown Retail Strategy; Planning Services meeting
Concentrate more retail on Main Street. Avoid ground level office buildings	2010 OCP; Economic Development meeting
Remove sections of grid in Old Town for infill development. i.e. Eighth Avenue	Engineering meeting
Establish direct control districts or incentives for high priority areas of Downtown	2007 Downtown Plan; Planning Services meeting